



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS WORDEN (CG-18)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96683

CG18/SS:dof
5750
Ser 274
24 August 1981

From: Commanding Officer, USS WORDEN (CG 18)
To: Director of Naval History (OP 09BH)
Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC 20374

Subj: USS WORDEN (CG 18) Command History for 1980

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Narrative History
(2) Roster of Officers
(3) Roster of Enlisted Personnel
(4) 1980 Personnel Data
(5) Annual Statistics
(6) Commanding Officer's Biography
(7) Commanding Officer's Photograph

1. Enclosures (1) through (7) are forwarded in accordance with reference (a).


CARL A. NELSON

COMMAND HISTORY USS WORDEN (CG 18) 1980

NARRATIVE

Calendar year 1980 got off to a slow start with the first 20 days spent inport at Yokosuka, Japan for upkeep. The 21st through 25th were underway days enroute to Subic Bay, Republic of the Phillipines. The month ended inport at Subic Bay embarking the Mobile Training Team (MITT). FTM2 KEIPE was selected as Sailor of the Month and the ship accumulated six days at sea.

Operations picked up somewhat in February with ASUWEX 1A-80 being conducted during all at sea periods through the 19th. The first four days saw WORDEN in the South China Sea conducting both ASUWEX 1A-80 and MITT Phase I. After a brief stop in Subic Bay on 5 February for a crew merger conference with USS REEVES, WORDEN steamed for Pattaya Beach, Thailand.

Enroute, on 10 February, a 25 foot boat was sighted waving a red cross banner and flashing SOS. The 33 Vietnam refugees were embarked when their vessel was determined to be unseaworthy, and their boat was sunk with a combination of gasoline and concussion grenades. The refugees were then transported to Pattaya Beach and debarked.

WORDEN's crew enjoyed a fine sightseeing adventure at Pattaya Beach through 15 February, then steamed for the return trip to Subic Bay, arriving on the 20th. During the two days in port, an Anti-Air Warfare (AAW) Readiness Review was conducted and WORDEN received a Satisfactory grade. During this period additional MITT personnel were embarked and 22 through 25 February were steamed in the South China Sea conducting MITT, Phase II. A brief stop on the 26th at Subic Bay to debark MITT members and WORDEN was homeward bound on 27 February. MS1 CUNNINGHAM was selected as Sailor of the Month and WORDEN logged 19 days at sea.

During March, WORDEN prepared for an extended cruise, beginning with an upkeep period in Yokosuka 3 to 9 March. To prepare for the Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) WORDEN conducted local ops for two days before returning to Yokosuka on March for additional routine upkeep. OPPE was conducted in the Northern Japan operational area on 16 and 17 March and WORDEN was awarded a Satisfactory grade. The ship then joined USS MIDWAY to escort her to Sasebo, Japan, arriving on the 20th. The city of Sasebo hosted a celebration for WORDEN and MIDWAY on the 21st which was a resounding success. On the 22nd WORDEN again got underway to escort MIDWAY back to Yokosuka, and arrived late the next day. WORDEN then began final preparations for an extended deployment and wound up the month in her homeport. WORDEN steamed 9 days in March, and selected MM3 MASSIE as Sailor of the Month. MS1 CUNNINGHAM was selected as Sailor of the Quarter for the first quarter of Calendar Year 1980.

Enclosure (1)

After completing workup, WORDEN got underway on 10 April for an extended cruise. After three days inport Subic Bay, WORDEN was underway on 18 April for the Indian Ocean. WORDEN joined USS CONSTELLATION on 20 April. Just before entering the Malacca Straits, an S-3 from the CONSTELLATION sighted a 35 foot boat full of people. Upon investigation, WORDEN found there were 42 Vietnamese refugees aboard the leaking craft who had not had food or water for two days. The 42 were brought aboard and their boat was destroyed by gunfire from the ship's 3"/50's. WORDEN anchored in Singapore the next day to off load the refugees and then resumed transit to the Indian Ocean. The 26th was marked by a rendezvous with USS SACRAMENTO for an underway replenishment (UNREP). The month ended with WORDEN entering the Gulf of Oman and approaching an operating area termed GONZO Station. WORDEN steamed 18 days in April and completed 20 days of the extended deployment. EW2 ROGERS was selected as Sailor of the Month for April.

May began with WORDEN relieving USS CALIFORNIA as the Anti-Air Warfare (AAW) picket for the two aircraft carrier battle groups headed by USS CONSTELLATION and USS EISENHOWER. WORDEN met USS ROANOKE on the first, also, for an UNREP, and then on 2 May conducted an UNREP and vertical replenishment (VERTREP) with helicopters from the USS MARS. The Pacific Fleet Rock Band, Tsunami, provided an entertaining interlude on the fantail that day. WORDEN arrived at GONZO Station on 3 May and again conducted an UNREP and VERTREP; this time with the SACRAMENTO.

14 May was the date for a "Ropeyarn" afternoon, an opportunity to standdown from the high tempo of at sea operations and relax. To kick off the 1980 Navy Relief Fund Drive, an auction was held in which crewmembers donated money in an effort to induce shipmates to perform various feats of skill or endurance. Chaplain WINSLOW agreed to a week without a cigar, Ensign KENNEDY agreed to 24 hours of silence, and Captain NELSON agreed to serve coffee and a cigar to a seaman in the Captain's chair on the bridge. When combined with Bingo Night on 17 May and Monte Carlo Night the 24th, the Navy Relief Drive far exceeded the \$3600 goal, netting over \$4200 by the end of the month.

May was a month of heavy operations, the 28 days of GONZO Station had already resulted in over 1500 Air Intercepts, and the ship replenished or refueled six times. The Supply Department was awarded the Golden Stub Award for outstanding supply response among all ships in the Arabian Sea. It was also a month for crew improvement and fitness. Twenty four men graduated from the Program for Afloat College Education (PACE) English course conducted by Dr. Stoddard MARTIN, and over seventy men logged a combined total of 12,000 laps of the ship - a distance of about 1500 miles. SN WOECK jogged 101 laps non-stop to break Chaplain WINSLOW's 100 lap record. And at the swim call on the 18th a shark broke up in the fun and sent everyone back to the fantail cookout. FTM2 POOLE was selected as the WORDEN's Sailor of the Month.

June opened wetly with a broken fire main that flooded the ship's forward pump room with 50,000 gallons of salt water. WORDEN continued as AAW picket at GONZO Station and on 2 June LT Jon "JR" RED took the 19 men of the "WORDEN Wide World Wonders" to the USS CONSTELLATION for the GONZO Olympics. WORDEN men competed in the 5000 meter run, egg toss, paper airplane flying contest, hot dog eating contest, frisbee toss, basketball foul shooting, and RMSN ALLEN brought back second place in the Standing Broad Jump.

Five and six June saw the WORDEN in UNREP/VERTREP evolutions with USNS HASSAYAMPA, and on the sixth WORDEN departed GONZO Station for Mombasa, Kenya. 33 crewmembers of USS CONSTELLATION were brought aboard for the trip and many berthing compartments sprouted cots for the occasion.

Davy Jones arrived on board on 10 June for the traditional equatorial initiation. MMFN MANDAP was the hands down winner of the beauty contest to select a queen. Throughout the bright, sunny eleventh, King Neptune (FTMC EBey), mythological god of the sea, along with his Royal Court - Royal Judge CWO3 SCHNEIDER and Royal Baby FTML NASH, stole the scene as they directed the pageantry of initiation into the Royal Domain of Imperium Neptune Regis. 230 pollywogs became shellbacks that day with the Executive Officer, CDR NEWLON, the senior wog.

On 12 June WORDEN moored at the fuel pier in Mombasa, Kenya completing what would become the longest stretch at sea (55 days) the ship would experience during the deployment. During the docking evolution the brow fell from the ship, only slightly injuring a local electrician who was on the brow at the time. On the 13th WORDEN shifted to Mbaraki Pier and hosted senior officers of the Kenyan Navy. During the port visit WORDEN crewmembers participated in \$11,800 of arranged Special Services Tours and played soccer at a joint Kenyan/US Navy party at the Seaman's Club.

WORDEN got underway on 16 June for GONZO Station on the 19th, USS HAROLD E. HOLT met WORDEN and "leap-frog" drills were conducted. On the 20th, an UNREP was conducted with USNS PASSUMPSIC. The 21st saw HOLT detach and a rendezvous with USS MARS for a VERTREP. Later that same day a high line was rigged to USS VIRGINIA to pass parts to her. WORDEN finally arrived back on GONZO Station and reassumed AAW picket on 22 June. The same day saw a VERTREP with USS SACRAMENTO. 23 June WORDEN served as plane guard during flight operations on board USS EISENHOWER and on 24 June WORDEN joined USS TRUXTON for Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) operations. During this evolution a spar buoy was let out on a towing line from the fantail, the line broke and the spar buoy was lost. WORDEN again accompanied USS CONSTELLATION on 25 June and participated in an UNREP/VERTREP with USS SACRAMENTO.

26 June was set aside for the crew's relaxation and the "Worden WHIRL" was conducted. A Man Overboard contest between junior officers and Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS) aspirants started the day. The competition was won by CWO2 "Gunner" BACHMAN who beat out nine others by recovering "Oscar", the man over board dummy, in 5 minutes, 46 seconds. Gunner's Mates competed in a target shoot with the 3"/ 50 won by GMM3 SULLIVAN who hit the target 4 out of 4 tries. The Repair Locker Teams competed to see who could operate a P-250 pump quickest and it turned out Repair Party 2 was the fastest team on board. The 29th was also a day for the crew with the USO Troupe "Hurmann Burman" providing rock entertainment until heavy seas and a pitching deck brought an early end to the day. During AAW operations that day WORDEN again lost a spar buoy; but this one was recovered.

The month ended with a towing exercise with USS BAGLEY. The WORDEN steamed 26 days during the month. Among awards presented was a second Golden Stub Award for the Supply Department, and the Wardroom claimed the Captain's Cup for accumulating the most points in athletic competition over the past year. SK3 CATAUTAN was selected as Sailor of the Month, FTM2 POOLE as Second Quarter Sailor of the Quarter. Four men earned ESWS pins, and Captain NELSON presented one Commanding Officer's Letter of Commendation.

July opened with WORDEN still at GONZO Station as AAW picket. The first was marked by a visit by COMCARGRU ONE, Rear Admiral RAMSEY. to present the June Golden Stub Award, and a leap-frog drill with USS TRUXTON. USNS HASSAYAMPA joined WORDEN for an UNREP/VERTREP on 2 July, and on 3 July both USS SACRAMENTO and USS FLINT conducted UNREPS alongside. The WORDEN also detected, and was overflown by, two Soviet May aircraft both of which were closely shadowed by U.S. F-14 Fighters.

WORDEN again turned south on 6 July, heading for Fremantle, Australia. In spite of only five days in the Arabian Sea this month, WORDEN still captured second place in the July Golden Stub competition. WORDEN's joggers logged a total of 2,895 miles on board. During the transit WORDEN participated in a VERTREP with the USS WICHITA on the seventh and an UNREP with USNS HASSAYAMPA on the ninth. Also on this transit two summary courts-martial were conducted.

WORDEN moored at Victoria Quay, Fremantle, Australia on 16 July. The hospitality and friendly reception was overwhelming. "Dial a Sailor" lines were flooded with calls, the CPO's were hosted at a party at the Navy Base nearby. Fremantle put on a big spread for the crew, and the Wardroom was treated to a cocktail party by the Australian-American Association of Fremantle at City Hall. Perth isn't far off and many WORDEN sailors found liberty there exciting. WORDEN poured 4,000 visitors through the ship to return some of the hospitality and all hands had a thoroughly enjoyable stay. The only sad note of the stay was the loss of FTM1 MOSS who drowned in Fremantle's Harbor.

The 21st found WORDEN underway for Subic Bay and home. An Australian P-3 provided WORDEN's last contact with "down under" by flying past on the 22nd. Four days later WORDEN crossed the equator and the next afternoon a swim call and cookout were held under a blazing tropical sky and balmy breezes. WORDEN moored to Riviera Piers in Subic Bay the evening of 28 July. On the 29th, 17 Midshipmen and four Filipino Provisional Ensigns were embarked for training, and WORDEN got underway for home. Altogether WORDEN steamed 25 days in July and ended the month enroute to Yokosuka.

3 August ended the 114 day deployment as WORDEN moored at berth 7, Yokosuka, Japan. The business for this stop was to effect a turnover to USS REEVES and then for WORDEN to change homeport to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. A joint WORDEN, REEVES, JMSDF ASAKAZE (WORDEN's Sister Ship) picnic was the highlight of the evolution with baseball, tug-o-war, swimming, Japanese and American food and lots of fun marking the occasion. The crossdeck officially occurred on 19 August with 104 officers and enlisted leaving for the REEVES, and 119 Officers and men crossing the pier to their new home onboard.

The 20th was marred by the discovery of an unconscious Japanese National Workman who was apparently electrocuted during the course of repairs. In spite of rapid action by the crew he was unable to be revived. The 21st started the series of exercises designed to mold the crew into one team with General Quarters (Battle Stations) and a fast cruise being conducted at the pier. The 22nd featured a visit by COMSEVENTHFLT and on 25 August WORDEN was underway for Pearl Harbor.

The transit provided time for more team-building training as well as an enjoyable experience for the three adults and six youngsters embarked on the Tiger Cruise. WORDEN paused on 29 August to spread the ashes of FTM1 MOSS on the sea and to remember a fine shipmate, then continued the transit. 30 August was repeated as WORDEN entered the Domain of the Golden Dragon and crossed the International Dateline at 0903 on the second thirtieth.

August ended with a cookout on the fantail and many fine memories of the WORDEN's nine years in Japan. GMM3 ROSANIA was selected as August Sailor of the Month and LCDR (Chaplain) WINSLOW was awarded the GONZO Jogger of the Year Award. Six men were awarded the Navy Achievement Medal, one the Joint Service Commendation Medal. One officer earned his Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) pin and five men attained ESWS designation.

As WORDEN entered Pearl Harbor on 3 September she proudly displayed the 192 foot homeward bound pennant. Each foot of the pennant represented a crewmember who had been on board for ten months or more. The arrival at Berth B-26 was cheered by wives, relatives, and friends of the crewmembers. The traditional Hawaiian greeting included hula dancers and a giant lei hung about the bow of the ship.

The remainder of September served as a "get acquainted" period allowing WORDEN men time to settle in Hawaii. The 17th was spruced up with Hispanic foods and decorations to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Day. The Battle Efficiency Awards were announced for the period 1 January 1979 through 30 June 1980. WORDEN captured the coveted Communications "C", Engineering "E", CIC "E" (Operations), and the Blue Supply "E" departmental awards. FTM2 CENTER was selected as Sailor of the Month and as Sailor of the Quarter for the Third Quarter of 1980. The Commanding Officer commended sixteen men at Captain's Call, and presented one man with his ESWS pin.

October was scheduled as the last steaming month before beginning preparations for overhaul. On the fourth WORDEN was the visit ship in Pearl Harbor and hundreds of Hawaiian residents and tourists walked through the ship. The fourteenth started routine local ops, with the first order of business the solemn burial at sea of two service members. WORDEN then participated in ASW operations with USS BARBEL. On the 16th WORDEN performed leap-frog drills with USS ROBISON and on the 17th conducted precision anchorings in Mamala Bay before returning to pier B-26 in Pearl Harbor.

Several hundred dependents and guests boarded WORDEN the morning of 24 October for a weekend dependent's cruise to Lahaina, Maui. The weather was terrific all weekend, and the few minor problems with the ship's boats added a sense of adventure to an already exciting weekend. WORDEN moored again at Berth B-26, Pearl Harbor the afternoon of the 27th.

Next morning started with bumper drills at Mamala Bay and ended at Pier W-1 at West Loch Naval Magazine for weapons offload. On the 30th, while getting underway, the brow slipped, slightly injuring one crewmember. WORDEN crossed the harbor to moor at H -3, Pearl Harbor to defuel.

229,449 gallons later, on the 31st, WORDEN shifted berths to B-18 for final preparations for a ship overhaul. EMI AGUILERA was selected as Sailor of the Month.

November opened with various equipment, radar, and gun installations as well as other ship's areas being pulled apart or removed in preparation for overhaul. JMSDF MOCHIZUKI arrived on 12 November and was hosted by WORDEN. COMCORTDIVONE from the MOCHIZUKI visited WORDEN and other visits, dinners, and social occasions were swapped by the crews. 21 November saw the habitation of Unaccompanied Enlisted Personnel Housing (UEPH) 150 by WORDEN personnel, and on the 24th UEPH 1333 was occupied. November ended with WORDEN entering Drydock #1, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard at 0700 on the 29th.

The 1980 Combined Federal Campaign came to a close and WORDEN was the third largest afloat command contributor in Pearl Harbor with \$7,924.69. The 1980 Hawaii Regional Navy Decathlon ended with OS2 ESPINOZA capturing third place in a field of 32. BM3 MITCHELL was selected as Sailor of the Month.

Baseline Overhaul (BOH) commenced on 1 December with the stripping of ship systems and gutting of all living and working areas as both the crew and shipyard workers ripped out all the old equipment and furnishings. Vice Admiral BAGGETT visited WORDEN on the 22nd to see how things were going.

Admiral DAVIS presented the Golden Anchor Award on 19 December. WORDEN was number one in retention in the Pacific Fleet by reenlisting 77% of first termers, 78% of second termers, 80% of the eligible junior petty officers, and 100% of the careerists eligible.

WORDEN hosted a tremendous Christmas Party for children of the Crewmembers on the tenth. STG3 GASIK brought home first place in team dance at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Skate Rink and is now on his way to U.S. Regional competition. The Commanding Officer presented one SWO and two ESWS qualifications and awarded one letter of commendation. ET2 PLUNKETT was selected as Sailor of the Month for December and Sailor of the Quarter for the last quarter of 1980. FTM2 CENTER was selected as Sailor of the Year.

1980 PERSONNEL DATA

	REPORTED		DETACHED		EMBARKED		DEBARKED	
	Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl
January	4	9	2	11		5		5
February	1	6	1	7		9		6
March	1	25	2	18	1	18	1	5
April	1	3	2	27	6	20	5	23
May		9		5		5	1	6
June		10		8		34		34
July	3	11	1	16				
August	5	124	8	119				
September		27	1	3				
October		24		17	2	3		3
November	3	30	3	17				
December	1	16	1	13				
Totals	19	294	21	261	9	82	7	82

	REPORTED		DETACHED	
	Off	Enl	Off	Enl
Crossdeck with USS REEVES, includes transfers in August, Sept, Oct & Nov.	4	125	7	99

ANNUAL STATISTICS

3" 50 Ammo Fired	361 Rounds
MK46 Torpedos Fired	2
ASROC Missiles Fired	2
ATC Intercepts	1465
Link 4A Intercepts	1245
Sodas sold	123,000
Cash paid (salaries & expenses).	\$1,483,373
Days Underway	155
Days Deployed	144
Longest period at sea	55 days
Time Zones Crossed	17

Enclosure (5)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS WORDEN (CG-18)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96683

CG18/SS/:cr

5700

Ser 276
17 MAY 1982

From: Commanding Officer, USS WORDEN (CG 18)
To: Director of Naval History (OP 097BH), Washington
Navy Yard, Washington D.C.

Subj: USS WORDEN (CG 18) Command History for 1981

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Command History USS WORDEN (CG 18) 1981 Narrative

1. In accordance with reference (a) Enclosure (1) is submitted.


R. L. JOHNSON

COMMAND HISTORY USS WORDEN (CG 18, 1981)
NARRATIVE

WORDEN began 1981 with the volunteer spirit as many crewmembers helped in organizing events for a Black History Month celebration at Pearl Harbor. WORDEN's men were the driving force behind activities that ranged from gospel singing, a fashion show, and a "Soul Food" dinner to a disco dance.

On 29 January, WORDEN's Executive Officer, CDR William NEWLON was relieved by LCDR De Ford E. COCHRAN.

Since WORDEN began her 15-month BASELINE overhaul in December 1980, the crew had been berthed in barracks on Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, RADM. T. M. WARD, Jr, inspected WORDEN's barracks and in a message said, "In the three months that WORDEN has occupied Naval Station UEPH 1333, the the UEPH has been maintained in outstanding condition. The pride and esprit de corps of the crew and WORDEN's UEPH staff are evident in the clean, orderly appearance of the rooms and the many improvements they have made, such as in the landscaping the grounds".

A large amount of the ship's main propulsion, auxiliary and combat systems equipment was removed during the early months of 1981 for repair and/or refurbishing. Some of the new equipment was already on the docks near the ship, ready for installation. A team of crewmembers assigned to the ship's Supply Operations Assistance Program (SOAP) was busy maintaining their scheduled deadlines in the enormous job of ordering and cataloging WORDEN's repair and spare parts.

WORDEN's "A" Basketball Team finished the season with a powerful second place in the 1980-81 MIDPAC Basketball League. The team also placed third in the league championship tournament. WORDEN began organizing a running team which would participate in local running events. In February and March the ship held the Navy-Wide physical fitness test and had few crewmembers who did not finish the testing successfully. A WORDEN sponsored bowling league began and drew 18 teams from the ship which competed against each other in weekly play.

On May 1, WORDEN returned to the water from Drydock #1 at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. After undocking, the crew expressed a feeling of relief, mixed with anticipation after such a long period of being drydocked. Overhaul progress continued steadily as the ship moved along toward the next major milestone; the reinhabitation of the ship on August 17. WORDEN's many specialty teams, including a bunk installation team, a spray painting team, and a tile/grout team were on their way toward meeting their goals for reinhabiting the ship on time.

In celebration of the May 1 undocking, WORDEN's crew held a huge picnic and invited dependents and shipyard workers alike to join in on the hamburgers, hot dogs, beans, salads, beer and soda.

WORDEN's Navy Relief Fund Drive began in May. Two years earlier the command set and made a goal of contributing 100 times the ship's hull number. Last year the ship raised over 200 times the hull number. In 1981 WORDEN contributed over 300 times the hull number.

In the area of sport, some of WORDEN's crewmembers competed in the Hawaii State Roller Skating Championships on May 8-9 and took two first places, one second place, and one third place. WORDEN's Softball Team got off to a winning start with six wins and two losses against other Pearl Harbor commands. WORDEN held the First Annual WORDEN Golf Tournament in which 18 crewmembers participated. WORDEN's newly organized running team competed in four local running events.

In June, WORDEN's seventh month of overhaul, eight volunteers from the ship helped paint and repair the Vietnamese/Laotian Hawaiian Center in Honolulu, which made local television news coverage.

Concerning the ship's overhaul, over \$24 million of the total funds allotted to WORDEN were used for Naval Sea Systems Command authorized alterations, such as the installation of new sonar equipment and the modification of existing systems. For example, one of the major alterations was an extensive air-conditioning upgrade which was installed primarily for the cooling of new electronic equipment, but will also benefit the crew's living conditions.

Over \$26 million more was spent for repairs to existing equipment such as boilers, machinery, electronic equipment, and office and living spaces.

Another \$5-\$6 million was spent on such things as labor and materials for the work being provided to WORDEN by USS BRYCE CANYON, USS JASON, USS PRARIE, as well as the Shipboard Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA) at Pearl Harbor. The ship's own funds (more than \$1.5 million) were for things such as minor equipment repair and procurement of habitability related items.

In the area of training, WORDEN was allotted and spent over \$75,000 for training expenses during 1981. WORDEN's training program was designed to allow the ship to come out of overhaul with the men knowing how to properly use and maintain the various equipment aboard ship.

Some of the new equipment and alterations aboard WORDEN included modifications to the existing Terrier Missile System which was modernized and made easier to maintain. The ship received the Harpoon Missile System as well as the Vulcan-Phalanx Close-In-Weapons System (CIWS). A new SLQ-32 Electronic Warfare System will improve WORDEN's ability to detect and counter enemy missiles or aircraft. The SQQ-23 is a new sonar system which, when coupled with the ship's anti-submarine weapons will provide significant anti-submarine warfare capabilities. The Naval Tactical Data System (NTDS) received new computer programs and changes to the ship's search radars included a new air-search radar and an automatic detection and tracking modification to the existing height-finding air-search radar.

In the area of habitability, the mess decks received all new tables and chairs, a new hot sandwich bar and beverage dispenser, a new ice cream machine, and various other equipment. The berthing compartments were completely refurbished. The CPO messing and berthing spaces also received a facelift, as did the Officer's Wardroom and staterooms. A new library with magazines, books, and study tables was also installed.

In sports, WORDEN Men's Bowling League finished play with the ship's OI Division winning first place. The ship's Running Team (dubbed "WORDEN Amazing Running Team" or WART) competed in two more local races with a total 19 crewmembers involved. WORDEN's Softball Team won five more games and lost two in the MIDPAC Slowpitch Softball League. WORDEN's champion roller skater captured a second place Silver Medal in the team dance event of the Northwest-Pacific Regional Roller Skating Championships at Tacoma, Washington. In July, WORDEN administered the second Navy Physical Fitness Test of the year.

ENCLOSURE (1)

In the early part of August, a WORDEN Family meeting was held which featured a slide show of the ship's overhaul progress, a guest speaker, and a question and answer period with the CO.

The ship's Career Counselor reported an outstanding increase in reenlistments during the months of July and August.

The ship celebrated her 18th birthday with a small ceremony and cake cutting on August 3rd. As part of the ceremony, four WORDEN sailors reenlisted for a total of 18 years. The crew reinhabited the ship on schedule, August 17, and the Welfare and Recreation Committee sponsored a "homecoming" picnic to celebrate the event.

The ship's Softball Team ran away with the first place trophy in the MIDPAC Slowpitch Softball League and WORDEN's Running Team competed in three local events during August. One member of the ship's crew placed fifth in the 1981 Hawaiian Regional Navy Chess Tournament by outwitting 20 other players for the position. The ship's OI Division won the 1981 WORDEN Captain's Cup Competition.

September saw Captain Ronald L. JOHNSON relieve Captain Carl A. NELSON as Commanding Officer of WORDEN at a Change of Command Ceremony aboard the ship in the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.

In October, the 1981 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) was conducted with a total of 260 crewmembers contributing \$7,757.00.

During October and November, WORDEN's engineering department successfully conducted fore and aft Light-Off Examinations (LOE).

The Chief of Naval Information (CHINFO), announced the winners of the 1981 CHINFO Merit Award contest. The "WORDEN WORD" took second place in the Navy-Wide contest in the "Familygram Large Command" category.

In sports, WORDEN took third place in the Navy Birthday Olympics and the ship's football team barely missed capturing the tournament trophy for the 1981 MIDPAC Flag Football League.

The crew's children's Christmas party was held in December at the Pearl Harbor EM Club. The party was made possible through individual contributions from the crew.

The crew held its Christmas party at the Camp SMITH Staff NCO Club which featured a buffet dinner, door prizes, and dancing to a live band.

Also in December, the ship was involved in a "Fast Cruise" in which various drills and other at-sea evolutions were completed while still dockside in preparation for sea trials.

ENCLOSURE (1)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS WORDEN (CG-18)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96683

CG18/SS:ko
5750
2 February 1983


From: Commanding Officer, USS WORDEN (CG 18)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, D.C. 20374

Subj: Command History

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) USS WORDEN (CG 18) Command History 1982

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.


R. L. JOHNSON

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFPAC
COMNAVSURFGRU MIDPAC

USS WORDEN (CG 18)
COMMAND HISTORY 1982
NARRATIVE

USS WORDEN commanded by Captain Ronald L. JOHNSON, USN, began 1982 with Sea Trials in January which tested the ship's Combat Systems and main propulsion plant for the first time since entering overhaul 14 months earlier. The overhaul and refit officially ended.

April and May were busy months for WORDEN's Combat Systems organization. Virtually every man played a role in the successful completion of her Combat Systems Ships Qualifications Trials (CSSQT) and Weapons Systems Accuracy Testing (WSAT). The long hours paid off with eight of nine successful Terrier missile firings, two Anti-Submarine Rocket (ASROC) shots, and four over-the-side torpedo shots accomplished.

April was celebrated with a ship's picnic for the crew in appreciation for all the effort put into those previous months. WORDEN was the main attraction in May during an "open house" on Armed Forces Day, for which the theme was "Peace Through Strength."

During a Change of Command ceremony on May 28, Admiral S. R. FOLEY, Jr., USN, relieved Admiral James D. WATKINS, USN, as Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet aboard the USS NEW YORK CITY (SSN-696). WORDEN participated as a back-drop by berthing behind the ceremonial platform. The crew looked sharp as they manned the rails in Summer White uniforms. The scene was included in that evening's local television news coverage.

The command felt strongly that the best way to give its families and friends an idea of a sailor's life at sea was to treat them to a dependent's cruise, and did so in June. With over 500 guests embarked, the "landlubbers" were given an Anti-submarine helicopter demonstration, lunch and a live firing of the Vulcan-Phalanx Close In Weapon System (CIWS). These events and the beautiful view of Oahu from the sea made for an enjoyable one-day outing.

The championship WORDEN softball team pushed their winning streak to 16 straight games to end season play in the COMNAVSURFGRU MIDPAC slow pitch "American League" with an 18-2 record in June. In other sports, more than 55 golfers turned out for the second annual 1982 WORDEN Golf Tournament June 7.

On July 3, WORDEN's crew and their families were invited to a luau, the second in as many years, held on the beach at Waikiki. Featured were traditional Hawaiian food and entertainment. The feast was attended by over 200 persons and was sponsored by the ship's Welfare and Recreation Fund.

WORDEN rendered honors as she passed the Arizona Memorial during ceremonies July 9, which was proclaimed National POW/MIA Day by the President in memory of those whose lives were lost in the service of their country and for those who are still missing. Rear Admiral S. J. ANDERSON, Commander Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, sent a message to WORDEN expressing his "appreciation and admiration" to the crew for its sharp appearance when the ship passed the Memorial.

Also in July, after much preparation, WORDEN's engineers successfully passed their Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) which proved that the ship could both safely steam and maintain the 1200 PSI propulsion systems.

The summer months of 1982 saw WORDEN hosting three separate groups of midshipmen, young men who will fill future officer billets. The students came from schools such as Notre Dame and the United States Naval Academy and spent four to six weeks of their vacation aboard WORDEN training in preparation for their commissioning.

The midshipmen came aboard at an opportune time. During the whole month of August WORDEN conducted Refresher Training (REFTRA) under the guidance of many Fleet Training Group, Pearl Harbor instructors. The rigorous month tested the crew's abilities to handle any shipboard emergency and "fight the ship". The overall critique showed WORDEN to be in good shape to continue training and prepare for her upcoming WESTPAC deployment.

September was spent in port undergoing regular upkeep with the exception of a four-day operational period in late September...READIEX 6-82. WORDEN also welcomed the Prime Minister of Fiji and the Defense Director for the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force in separate visits during September. Both of the dignitaries were impressed by the United States Navy, as represented by WORDEN.

In early October several groups of WORDEN sailors entered the Navy Birthday Olympics at Naval Station, Pearl Harbor. WORDEN made a good showing and managed to capture the first place trophy in the tug-o-war contest. A front-page photo and caption in the Honolulu Advertiser of WORDEN's motor whaleboat team paddling in the harbor provided ready material for scrapbooks and letters home.

The largest Jewish congregation in the American military marked their last holiday in the High Holy season, Simchat Torah, aboard WORDEN in October--a first for the U.S. Navy. As an extra note, the Pearl Harbor Jewish Chapel rabbi related that every letter in the Hebrew alphabet has a numerical equivalent. The numerical equivalent for the Hebrew word "chai", or life, is 18...WORDEN's hull number.

On October 22, WORDEN got underway for San Diego, California with an anxious crew, a small number of "Tiger Cruise" guests, and several "Guests of the Navy" embarked for a six-day trip. The transit was made to take advantage of training opportunities in San Diego which are not readily available in our homeport.

Midway through the crossing, WORDEN's Commanding Officer received a message citing the winners of the 1982 Chief of Naval Information Merit Awards, which recognized outstanding print and media broadcast media efforts Navy-wide. WORDEN received first place honors for its familygram "The Worden Word", the only command from Hawaii to place in the annual contest.

During the stay in San Diego, WORDEN passed her Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection (NWA).

WORDEN participated in READIEX 83-1 on the trip back to Hawaii with Battle Group CHARLIE, which she will accompany on her WESTPAC deployment in March 1983. Hurricane Iwa hit the islands during the Thanksgiving holidays and forced WORDEN to delay her arrival until the storm's fury had passed. Within days, the ship was underway again for the completion of READIEX 83-1.

In December, WORDEN successfully completed its Command Inspection administered by COMNAVSURFGRU MIDPAC. Worthy of note were grades of SATISFACTORY in Damage Control and overall shipboard PMS.

The ship spent the Christmas holidays in upkeep while many crewmembers volunteered their services for the '82 Honolulu Marathon. Looking back, 1982 had all the makings of a prosperous year for Pearl Harbor's only guided missile cruiser.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS WORDEN (CG-18)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96683

CG18/016:ab
5700
20 March 1984

From: Commanding Officer, USS WORDEN (CG 18)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, D.C. 20390

Subj: USS WORDEN 1983 Command History; submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5750.12B

Encl: (1) WORDEN 1983 Command History

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

J. E. Hutsebaut
J. E. HUTSEBAUT
By direction

USS WORDEN (CG 18) COMMAND HISTORY-1983

USS WORDEN began 1983 with a holiday stand-down period inport Pearl Harbor. On January 11, she lit off her boilers and got underway and arrived at San Diego on January 16. On January 17, WORDEN was underway first as OTC of a VANDELEX with USS LEAHY (CG 16), then for READIEX 83-2, under the tactical command of COMCARGRU ONE. During this fleet readiness exercise WORDEN operated with members of Battle Group Charlie; USS BARBEY (FF 1088), USS COOK (FF 1083), USS SIDES (FFG 14), USS HEWITT (DD 966), USS ROBISON (DDG 12), and USS CORAL SEA (CV 43).

The VANDAL missile exercise lasted for three days, after which WORDEN operated as the anti-warfare air commander (AAWC) for Battle Group Charlie from the 20th to the 23rd. WORDEN conducted additional exercises from January 24 to the 28th, including a Mobile Sea Range Exercise, firing four missiles during a live firing exercise.

On January 29, WORDEN detached from Battle Group Charlie and steamed home to Pearl Harbor, arriving February 5. She stayed inport and made final preparations for an upcoming Western Pacific deployment. On the morning of 22 March, WORDEN was underway again, steaming east this time to rendezvous with USS CORAL SEA (CV 43) and Battle Group CHARLIE as they headed west. WORDEN made one last stop in Pearl Harbor when the task group pulled in on April 1 for one day. The morning of April 2, crewmembers manned the rails as the ship got underway for a seven-month WESTPAC, and Battle Group CHARLIE steamed north and rendezvoused with the carriers USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) and USS MIDWAY (CV 41), their battle groups, and several replenishment ships. WORDEN steamed in company with 35 ships forming the FLEETEX battle force, the largest carrier task force formed and operating in the Northern Pacific since WW II. Together, the three task groups conducted FLEETEX 83 in the vicinity of the Aleutian Islands, supported by U.S. Air Force planes, ships and aircraft of the Royal Canadian Navy, and cutters of the U.S. Coast Guard.

During the exercise WORDEN performed duties as AAWC and controlled combat air patrol aircraft from all three carriers. On April 18, the exercise was completed. The ENTERPRISE battle group then headed for home, while WORDEN and the other two battle groups steamed south into the Sea of Japan for more operations. On April 25, WORDEN and the MIDWAY battle group pulled into Sasebo, Japan for a five-day port call. The visit gave the crew a welcome respite from the rough weather and cold seas encountered during the previous three weeks. In addition, many of the crewmembers were treated to their first foreign port; WORDEN had not been overseas since leaving her Yokosuka, Japan homeport in late 1980.

On April 30, WORDEN was again underway participating in READEX 83 with both MIDWAY and CORAL SEA and their escorts. Again, WORDEN acted as AAWC for both groups. The READEX 83 operations were conducted in the southern Sea of Japan, the Yellow Sea, and ended May 4 in the East China Sea. More operations with the CORAL SEA battle group carried WORDEN through the next 11 days.

A medical emergency onboard on Friday, May 13 caused WORDEN to alter course and change operations as a crewmember was medically evacuated off the ship. Shortly thereafter, the crewmember was flown to Clark AFB, Philippines for treatment.

On May 15, WORDEN, CORAL SEA, and escorts pulled into Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines for a four-day port call. Time in port was spent unloading supplies.

On May 19, Battle Group Charlie was underway again. Next on the agenda for WORDEN's sailors was a trip below the equator and a sojourn into the Realm of King Neptune. The venerable tradition was observed with all honors and ceremonies. On Monday, May 23, a Miss Pollywog Beauty Contest was conducted on the fantail, with trusty shellbacks officiating at the ceremony. The following day, all WORDEN wogs were roused from their sleep early and subpoenaed before King Neptune (who was none other than YNCM(SW) Franchi, the Command Master Chief). All pollywogs were adjudged guilty of their "crimes" and cleansed of their wog status, with WORDEN becoming the recipient of over 300 new initiates into the Realm of the Ancient Order of the Deep. All events were conducted safely, and gave WORDEN's new shellbacks a day they will long remember. On the afternoon of the 24th, a picnic was held on the fantail as a conclusion to the two-day ceremonies.

On May 25, WORDEN and the battle group anchored off Singapore for a six-day port visit. This third port call gave crewmembers the chance to sightsee, sharpen their bartering skills and feast on the unique cuisine.

WORDEN was underway again on June 1, steaming in company with USS COOK (FF 1083) enroute to Diego Garcia. On June 8, both ships anchored in the lagoon and commenced a 12-day upkeep alongside the tender USS HOLLAND (AS 32). Numerous repairs were accomplished, along with the preservation and painting of many work spaces. In addition, a ship's picnic and several divisional picnics were held on the beaches. The Navy wide PT test was administered to all hands during the visit.

Midway through the upkeep, a Captain's Call was held on the fantail. Frocking certificates were awarded to 56 crewmembers who were selected for advancement as a result of the March 1983 advancement exams. On June 20, the upkeep was completed and both ships weighed anchor, joining the new Battle Group CHARLIE now built around USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70), the Navy's newest carrier.

On July 1, WORDEN, VINSON and battle group escorts arrived at Perth/Fremantle, Western Australia for a port visit. The next six days proved to be a port call nothing short of superb, as the renowned Australian hospitality manifested itself almost immediately. Many shipmates were hosted by the local citizens for dinner and sight-seeing, and numerous battle group crewmembers found new friends through the "Dial A Sailor" program, which allowed the townspeople to personally invite crewmembers out for tours and a relaxing break off the ship.

WORDEN returned the hospitality by holding an open house on July 2 and 3rd. More than 10,000 visitors turned out to see what WORDEN does in fulfilling her mission in the Navy.

On July 4, WORDEN celebrated Independence Day with full dress ship and a reenlistment ceremony on the fantail, with four crewmembers shipping over. That night, the local residents were treated to a full fireworks display, compliments of the CARL VINSON.

On July 7, WORDEN and the battle group departed Australia for more operations with Battle Group CHARLIE in the vicinity of Diego Garcia. With the next port call scheduled in early September, the tempo of operations increased considerably as WORDEN looked ahead to steaming and conducting exercises for the next 60-plus days as the anti-air warfare commander for the task group.

WORDEN and battle group CHARLIE conducted exercises off Diego Garcia for the next two-and-a-half weeks, departing on July 24 enroute to the North Arabian Sea. WORDEN arrived there on July 30 and quickly became acclimated to the hot weather while continuing operations with the task group. On August 3, WORDEN passed a milestone in her history with the celebration of her 20th year in commission.

The month of August saw WORDEN participating in various exercises. The first was an anti-submarine warfare exercise, followed by a multiple phase operation code named GONZOEX. The remainder of WORDEN's steaming in the North Arabian Sea was spent in support of Task Group 70/76 in operation BRIGHT STAR/EASTERN WIND, an amphibious operation conducted throughout the Mid East. During BRIGHT STAR/EASTERN WIND, WORDEN operated off the coast of Somalia, in the Gulf of Aden.

In mid-August, WORDEN received a message informing her that she had won her third Battle "E". In competition among her, USS REEVES (CG 24), and USS STERRETT (CG 31), WORDEN won the overall "E" plus awards in seven categories: Damage Control, Operations, Engineering, Communications, Anti-Submarine Warfare, Missiles, and Electronic Warfare. On August 21, WORDEN observed 45 continuous days at sea by splicing the main brace, with crewmembers receiving two beers each. On August 27, WORDEN crewmembers finally had the chance to look forward to a break from high-tempo operations as Battle Group CHARLIE departed the Indian Ocean and steamed east to the Philippines for a port visit. On September 7, WORDEN marked the end of 62 continuous days at sea by tying up to the pier at the Subic Bay Naval Station. The following nine days gave crewmembers a chance to take a respite from operations and also perform necessary maintenance and upkeep.

On September 17, WORDEN and the task group got underway enroute to a port visit in Hong Kong. Arriving there the morning of the 21st, the task group anchored and commenced a five-day visit. The British colony provided plenty of shopping bargains and countless hours of entertainment for WORDEN crewmembers on liberty. In the middle of the visit, on September 24, Capt. Ronald L. Johnson was relieved by Capt. John E. Liebmann as Commanding Officer in a ceremony conducted on the fantail.

On September 26, Battle Group CHARLIE was underway again. While WORDEN headed to Pusan, Korea along with BARBEY and SIDES, the remainder of the task force steamed to Sasebo, Japan. Both groups arrived at their respective ports on October 1 for a four-day port call. On October 5, WORDEN, BARBEY and SIDES departed Korea for a one day transit to Sasebo, while CARL VINSON and her escorts steamed to Pusan.

During this four-day port visit, the weather and world events became factors in all of the ships' schedules. First, a storm threatened to delay WORDEN getting underway on time on October 10; after the storm passed by, an assassination attempt on South Korea's president in Burma resulted in WORDEN leaving Sasebo on the morning of the 10th and being positioned with Battle Group CHARLIE off the coast of Korea for four days of contingency operations. Finally, at noon on October 13, WORDEN and the task force departed from the Sea of Japan operating area and headed east to Pearl Harbor.

On Saturday, October 22, the crew of the WORDEN was reunited with families and friends as the guided missile cruiser moored at Berth Bravo 26 at Pearl Harbor. Crewmembers reflected on their deployment and enjoyed leave and a two-week standdown.

The joyous homecoming was marred by tragedy a week after WORDEN returned. On Saturday, October 29, shortly before midnight, a crewmember died in a tragic incident onboard. A memorial ceremony was held the following week. Earlier, on November 1, WORDEN continued her inport schedule, receiving her long awaited Battle "E" award in a ceremony held on the fantail. Presenting the award to Capt. Liebmann and crew was Rear Admiral Conrad J. Rorie, COMNAVSURFGRU MIDPAC and Naval Base Commander. In awarding the "E" to WORDEN, Rear Admiral Rorie commended the crew for measuring up to what the battle efficiency award stands for.

On November 4, a personnel inspection and awards ceremony were conducted, with four crewmembers receiving honors for their accomplishments during the cruise. WORDEN continued her post deployment standdown inport for the next three weeks, with an upkeep and also by hosting various guests: on November 18, the 1984 National Defense University class, consisting of 10 generals, two faculty, and one retired three star general, visited the ship for a tour.

WORDEN was underway the last week of November for local operations, from November 28 to December 2. More local operations continued for portions of the first two weeks of December. On December 16, WORDEN pulled into port and commenced a Christmas standdown. The children's Christmas party was held December 17 at the Enlisted Club, the last major event of the year. WORDEN ended the year by celebrating the holidays among families and loved ones.